



Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2011

File No. 445

Senate Bill No. 499

Senate, April 7, 2011

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. CASSANO of the 4th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 22a-478 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2011*):

4 (b) In each fiscal year the commissioner may make project grants,
5 grant account loans and project loans to municipalities in the order of
6 the priority list of eligible water quality projects to the extent of
7 moneys available therefor in the appropriate accounts of the Clean
8 Water Fund. Each municipality undertaking an eligible water quality
9 project may apply for and receive a project grant and loan or project
10 grants and loans in an amount equal to one hundred per cent of the
11 eligible water quality project costs. The commissioner shall give
12 priority to an eligible water quality project being undertaken by two or
13 more municipalities that have entered into an agreement to share a
14 wastewater treatment facility, provided said commissioner determines

- 15 that such agreement will result in a cost savings to the state and to
16 such municipalities.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	22a-478(b)

PD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill has no state fiscal impact because it does not authorize additional General Obligation (GO) or revenue bonds for the Clean Water Fund Program.

There was no unallocated balance for Clean Water Fund GO bonds or revenue bonds as of April 1, 2011.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 499*****AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill gives Clean Water Fund grant and loan funding priority to eligible water quality projects on which (1) municipalities agree to share a wastewater treatment facility and (2) the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) commissioner determines will save the municipalities and the state money. By law, the DEP commissioner bases funding for eligible water quality projects on a ranking system and priority list that he is required to establish. The law authorizes the commissioner to make project grants, grant account loans, and project loans each fiscal year to municipalities for these projects when money is available in the Clean Water Fund's appropriate accounts.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2011

BACKGROUND***Clean Water Fund***

The Clean Water Fund provides financial aid to municipalities through grants and loans for the planning, design, and construction of wastewater treatment facilities. It is financed through a combination of federal funding, state general obligation bonds for the grant portion, and state revenue bonds for the loan portion.

Eligible Water Quality Project

"Eligible water quality project" means the planning, design, development, construction, repair, extension, improvement, remodeling, alteration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or acquisition of a water pollution control facility that the DEP commissioner approves.

Eligible Water Quality Project Priority List Factors

The DEP commissioner must consider all factors he deems relevant in establishing the ranking system and priority list, including:

1. public health and safety,
2. environmental resource protection,
3. population affected,
4. state water quality goals and standards attainment,
5. consistency with the state plan of conservation and development,
6. state and federal regulations, and
7. municipalities' formation of local housing partnerships.

The eligible water quality projects priority list must (1) include a description of each project and its purpose, impact, cost, and construction schedule and (2) explain how the priorities were established.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/23/2011)